From: Dave Anderson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:14am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I'd like to add my comments on the proposed remedy of the Microsoft antitrust trial.

The best way to restore healthy competition in the software development industry is to force Microsoft to completely release all source code of all their products as 'open source' or public domain.

Just like affirmative action policies had to be instituted to compensate decades of descrimination against minorities, a period of compensation needs to be established to restore competition to the software development industry.

Although this would be devastating to Microsoft for a period of time they could be allowed to continue to move forward with the other provisions provided in the proposed remedy.

Another area I feel is lacking in the proposed remedy is adequate protection of the small consumer. Microsoft has charged consumers large and small for 'upgrades' that were really repairs to faulty code. Microsoft needs to be held accountable for their product defects. The consumer should have access to free and unlimitted support. Government oversite of Microsoft's problem tracking needs to be implemented just like there is government oversite of utility services. A utility is a publicly approved monopoly and is allowed to be one becaused it is heavily regulated. Microsoft has become an un-approved monopoly and will require regulation until the competition has recovered enough for the market to work properly.

Thank you for considering these ideas

Sincerely

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